

APOLLO

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CHILDREN should be seen and not hurt.

Discomfited Reagan hails Jackson on pilot release

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent and Agencies

WASHINGTON. — Although clearly embarrassed, President Ronald Reagan yesterday praised the Reverend Jesse Jackson for securing the release of U.S. Navy pilot Robert Goodman from Syria. Reagan invited Jackson and Goodman to the White House today. He said he was "delighted" and "very happy" with Jackson's success.

At the same time, the White House and the State Department denied the U.S. had offered any concessions to the Syrians to obtain Goodman's freedom. The Pentagon said U.S. F-14 reconnaissance flights took place yesterday as they have in recent weeks.

Syrian President Hafez Assad ordered the release of Goodman yesterday during a mission to Damascus, by the Democratic presidential contender. Goodman was captured by the Syrians, after being shot down while on a reconnaissance flight on December 4.

Goodman, Jackson and a group of American clergymen who had accompanied the civil rights leader to Syria left aboard a Boeing-707 belonging to the U.S. Air Force.

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U.S. presidential hopeful Jesse Jackson yesterday bids farewell to Syrian President Hafez Assad after their meeting at Assad's villa near Damascus.

IAF bombs Fatah bases in Lebanon

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Post Defence Reporter

TEL-AVIV. — Israel Air Force jets yesterday morning bombed two buildings in Bhamdoun on the Beirut-Damascus road.

The Israeli Defence Forces spokesman said the buildings were terrorist bases. He said that terrorists, primarily those belonging to the Abu Musa rebel faction in Fatah, took up positions there after the Israeli withdrawal from the Shouf Mountains.

At noon, IAF jets returned to the area, breaking through the sound barrier over Beirut and the central mountains in what appeared to be a reconnaissance flight, military sources in the Lebanese capital told the Associated Press.

The 9:30 a.m. attack on Bhamdoun was made by four Kfir jets. According to Beirut radio stations, eight other planes provided cover. The raid was over in three minutes and the official announcement issued later said the pilots reported accurate hits.

PLO ousted from Druse areas in Shouf

Jerusalem Post Reporter

METULLA. — Most of the PLO forces that moved into Lebanon's Shouf Mountains following the Israeli Defence Forces' withdrawal last year have been expelled from the Druse villages in the area, military sources say.

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* INTERVIEW WITH ABDUL HALIM KHADDAM
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All ministries to cut budgets by 9%, economic ministers rule

Cuts in defence spending even before 9% decision

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The defence establishment had been cutting its expenditures even before yesterday's decision to reduce its budget by an additional 9 per cent.

A senior defence source speaking to military reporters in Tel Aviv yesterday before the 9 per cent across-the-board budget cut was announced said the defence establishment had been cutting its budget by 5.5 per cent in line with decisions taken last August.

Some contracts under which career personnel serve in the Israel Defence Forces will be broken and others will not be renewed when they expire. However, the IDF will continue to hire commanders and technicians, the source said.

Bank overdraft changeover

By JOSEPH MORGENSTERN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL-AVIV. — Commercial banks debited overdraft charges from their customers' accounts yesterday, having calculated then for a three-month period for the last time.

Banks were unusually busy, dealing with customers anxious to find out how much interest they would have to pay for overdrafts in the three month period ending December 31, 1983. In many instances, people reported that the charges amounted to more than half their monthly salaries.

Electricity rises 14% now; to rise another 14% soon

Post Economic Reporter

The Knesset Finance Committee yesterday approved a 14 per cent hike in electricity prices effective from last December 1. A further 14 per cent increase, retroactive to January 1, is expected to be approved in the next few days.

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter

The proposed cut in government operations for the next fiscal year will be carried out by slashing 9 per cent from the budget of each ministry, the Ministerial Economic Committee decided yesterday.

The committee will continue its deliberations on Friday. In addition to the cuts in government activities, there may also be further Treasury attempts to tax allowances and other welfare payments. Such proposals were made last August but were rejected after stiff opposition from the cabinet.

The committee's decision yesterday entailed, in fact, an increase of IS18b. in the proposed budgetary cut. The original Treasury proposal was for a IS25b. cut, but the committee's decision meant a IS70b. cut.

Each minister took it upon himself yesterday to work out with his ministry's staff where to make the cuts. This was in marked contrast to previous situations, where the Treasury tried to dictate where cuts should be made.

The committee's decision yesterday came despite Cohen-Orad's stated opposition to a uniform cut. Nevertheless, Treasury officials maintained yesterday that by the end of the budgetary deliberations there would be differences in the proportions by which each ministry's budget was cut.

Cohen-Orad was expected to face stiff opposition to the cut proposals from Labour and Social

Affairs Minister Aharon Uzan and his Tami party. Uzan's deputy, Ben-Zion Rubin, said yesterday that the ministry would prepare a plan for cutting 9 per cent from its budget to show how high the social cost of such a cut would be.

A Defence Ministry spokesman would not comment on the proposed cut until Defence Minister Moshe Arens had studied the proposal. Earlier in the day, before the committee meeting, Arens denied that he was at odds with Cohen-Orad.

He said that the defence budget was now like a blanket that strapping to keep everyone in the bed warm. The challenges that security had to

cope with had not decreased of late, he said. Treasury sources said yesterday that deputy prime minister David Levy's attitude during the committee meeting was a pleasant surprise for Cohen-Orad. Levy refused to vote for the finance minister's proposals at the cabinet meeting last Sunday, but yesterday he endorsed the 9 per cent cut decision.

Bank of Israel Governor Moshe Mandelbaum proposed during the meeting that a bill should be passed preventing the government from printing money to cover its operations. His proposal was not considered by the ministers. Levy told Mandelbaum that such a measure would be tantamount to a confession by the cabinet that it did not trust itself.

December revenue off 24% from '82

Post Economic Reporter

The government collected IS68 billion in taxes last month, which is 24 per cent less in real terms than in December 1982 collections, the Treasury announced yesterday.

The ministry said that part of this shortfall was caused by a sharp drop in imports last month, which lowered customs revenue. Taxes on imports totalled IS7 billion in December, 44 per cent less in real terms than the IS4.3b. collected in

December 1982. Income-tax collection also plunged sharply last month. The IS37.5b. collected was about 27 per cent less than in December 1982.

The Treasury said that the revenue shortfall necessitated the printing of IS23b. last month. The ministry added that in real terms, government activities had declined by some 6 per cent in December, but this had been more than offset by the fall in tax collection.

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BRUSSELS	8	12	Clear
BUEENOS AIRES	20	28	Clear
CHICAGO	3	7	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	7	11	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	5	11	Cloudy
GENEVA	4	11	Cloudy
HELSINKI	12	18	Clear
HONG KONG	12	24	Clear
JOHANNESBURG	15	21	Clear
LONDON	5	11	Cloudy
MADRID	5	11	Cloudy
MONTREAL	10	11	Snow
NEW YORK	2	11	Cloudy
OSLO	1	11	Cloudy
PARIS	7	11	Cloudy
RIO DE JANEIRO	21	27	Clear
SAO PAULO	18	24	Clear
STOCKHOLM	10	11	Cloudy
TOKYO	1	11	Cloudy
VIENNA	2	11	Cloudy
ZURICH	4	11	Cloudy

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy, with possibility of rain in south and centre of country in the afternoon.

City	Yesterday's High/Low	Today's High/Low
Jerusalem	69/49	71/51
Golan	69/49	71/51
Nahariya	71/51	73/53
Safed	73/53	75/55
Haifa Port	73/53	75/55
Tiberias	73/53	75/55
Nazareth	69/49	71/51
Afula	69/49	71/51
Sharon	69/49	71/51
Tel Aviv	75/55	77/57
B-G Airport	75/55	77/57
Jericho	62/42	64/44
Gaza	74/54	76/56
Beerseba	47/27	49/29
Eilat	31/11	33/13

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Ambassador Shaul Ramati will speak on "Brazil as seen by an Israeli Ambassador" at the weekly meeting of the Jerusalem Rotary Club at 1 p.m. in YMCA today.

Chief Rabbi of Britain, Sir Immanuel Jakobovits, delivered the first Gustav Wilezek Memorial Lecture at Boys Town, Jerusalem, on Sunday. Among those attending were Felicia Wilezek, A.L. Handler, Vice-President of the British Friends of Boys Town, Cantor Asher Hainowitz, and Rabbi Moshe Linchener, Dean of Boys Town.

Festive dinner marking the 50th anniversary of the Horeb Schools of Jerusalem will be held today at 7 p.m. at the Jerusalem Milton Hotel.

ARRIVALS

Julius Berman, Chairman of the Presidents Conference and President of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, for the Zionist General Council meetings.

Mrs. Frieda Lewis, National President of Hadasah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, for Hadasah matters and meetings of the WZO General Council.

Zipori gives back oversized Volvo

Communications Minister Mordechai Zipori has decided to return his silver Volvo following public criticism and government opposition to his ministry's buying a car with a larger engine than permitted by the government purchasing office.

A few weeks ago Zipori and his chauffeur received the new 2,000cc engine car, even though government ministers are limited to an 1800cc engine car.

The new car cost \$1.3 million more than the prescribed limits allow.

Zipori maintained that the larger car was more efficient for his considerable travel around the country and was saving the government money.

Taxi driver killed in collision with truck

KIRYAT GAT (Ilim). — Taxi driver Zvi Paz, 36, of Kibbutz Shoval, was killed last night when a truck coming in his direction on the Plugot road apparently swerved into the path of his cab.

The force of the ensuing collision overturned the taxi, crushing it and pinning Paz inside. The fire brigade had to be called to extract his body from the wreck. Police are investigating the accident, but have not detained the driver of the truck, Yisrael Sastiel, 26, of Givatayim.

Shamir opens WIZO's fund-raising campaign

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir yesterday opened WIZO's 1984 \$100 million fund-raising campaign at a ceremony at his office.

HOME NEWS

IDF to raze W. Bank roadside houses

By ASHER WALLFISH
Post Knesset Correspondent

Defence Minister Moshe Arens said yesterday that the Israeli Defence Forces intended to demolish houses, close to the highways in the Dheisha and other refugee camps, from which Arab youngsters frequently stone passing traffic.

Arens told the Likud Knesset faction that the issue of compensation to the home owners in the camps was being studied.

The minister said that after the Camp David agreements, the Arabs of the areas were under the impression that Israeli rule was impermanent, and this generated instability. But for the past two years, he said, greater stability was evident. Fewer and fewer Arabs now believed that the Israeli presence was likely to disappear.

At the same time, he conceded, increased Jewish settlement generated increased friction with the Arabs, and in any case the

number of targets for hostility also increased, whether it was settlers, cars, or children in school buses.

He said that stringent curbs had been placed on the Najjah University in Nablus, after information was received about hostile cells being organized in the institution.

He said he did not rule out the idea of deporting Arabs who stone Israeli traffic, but said that since the courts might hinder deportations, they could only be ordered if special legislation was passed.

Arens said Jewish settlers who take the law into their own hands increase Arab opposition to the Jewish presence and decrease the number of Arabs ready to accept Jewish settlement as an unavoidable fact of life.

He said that the state does not possess the instruments required to cope with the phenomenon of TNT (the Jewish terrorist underground that has been bombing mosques and churches lately. TNT is the Hebrew acronym for Terror Against Terror.)

Although the Jewish settlers in the areas are "fine human material," he said, they had no right to disparage the IDF for failing to defend them, as they believed. Such accusations against the IDF were one more factor for instability, he believed.

"If Rabbi Levinger pitches his tent in Nablus, he merely invites Peace Now to pitch its own tent alongside," Arens said. "There is no place for Jewish demonstrations in Judea and Samaria."

In the discussion, Deputy Agriculture Minister Michael Dekel said: "What do we need a Jewish urban quarter inside Nablus for? Will it convince the world of our rights to Eretz Yisrael? Why can't we manage with Jewish settlements around Nablus?"

Communications Minister Mordechai Zipori said: "The government must increase the budget for settlement so that we can attain a Jewish majority in Judea and Samaria."

Total strike may replace sanctions

Welfare services collapsing

By CHARLES HOFFMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The social services for the needy provided by the municipal welfare bureaus are on the verge of collapse due to the sanctions imposed for the last several weeks by the staff of the Labour and Social Affairs Ministry.

The heads of the local welfare bureaus, which get 75 per cent of their budgets from the ministry, demonstrated yesterday outside ministry headquarters in Jerusalem. The head of the Social Workers Union said that the bureaus might as well close, since the sanctions have left them with no money to operate.

The social workers said that there is no money to pay taxi fares for patients needing dialysis treatments, for workers to help the infirm aged with personal and household chores, or for special medical equipment for needy cases.

Worst off are foster families, one social worker said. "They haven't been paid in weeks for the children they care for. What can we do, send those children home? They don't have homes."

The time and effort invested in preparing problem families for placing children in boarding schools is now wasted, they said. Some of the schools have closed, sending more than 500 children home, and others are not accepting any more children because they too are running out of money. "The kids end up back on the street, and years of work in getting them on the right track go down the drain."

Among the boarding schools that have closed are Renanim in Zichron Ya'acov, Tokayer in Hadera, Azarim in Seder Yitzhak and Mezuda in Tiberias.

The Lilach school for wayward girls in Haifa closed last week, but re-opened with the aid of donations

— some reportedly from people in the neighbourhood who originally opposed locating the school there.

No homes for the aged or the retarded have closed yet, according to the social workers, but they are down to their last agora and will probably be forced to close next week, they said.

The staff of the ministry, who are demanding that their pay be equalized with Health Ministry salaries, met yesterday with Civil Service Commissioner Avraham Natan. His suggestion of arbitration was turned down, and the workers will probably vote this week to hold a full strike starting next week.

The heads of the ministry were expected to ask the Ministerial Economic Committee yesterday for authorization to begin negotiating with the workers. But the matter was apparently deferred due to the extended debate on next year's budget.

Sanctions may paralyze work in local authorities

The wave of sanctions is threatening, but still indirectly, to paralyze operations in the nation's local authorities. A Treasury allocation of almost a billion shekels budgeted for the localities is being held up by the Interior Ministry job action.

Kalman Dines, economic adviser to the Union of Local Authorities, has warned that "municipal and town councils will just halt all public services in a matter of days unless the money is transferred by the ministry."

Eli Hillel, mayor of Dimona, said yesterday: "Even after we receive our budget allocation from the Treasury, the money will be only enough to cover our bank overdraft and nothing left to pay our workers."

Senior Histadrut officials yesterday blamed the government for the wave of strikes affecting thousands of civil servants and charged that the government was doing nothing to negotiate a settlement of the disputes.

Addressing Transport Ministry workers in Tel Aviv, secretary-general of the Civil Servants Union, Reuven Ben-Ami, complained that the government was "tormenting workers" by sending prices skyhigh and eroding the value of their wages.

Trade Union department chairman Yisrael Kesar, at a meeting with department heads, complained that even before the ink was dry on government-Histadrut agreements which called for maintaining the real standard of living, the Treasury unilaterally took steps to achieve the exact opposite.

In Tel Aviv, staff committee leaders from all offices of the Transport Ministry throughout the

country met yesterday to discuss possible sanctions beginning next week. The workers are demanding cancellation of the layoffs of untrained workers and the minister's ordered cutting overtime and kilometrage allowances.

The 2,700 Agriculture Ministry workers today join workers in other government ministries who have started sanctions and are threatening to strike. The Agriculture Ministry workers decided yesterday to take a collective one-day "vacation."

Shalom Shalev of the ministry's workers committee told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that it opposes the firing of 160 workers demanded by the Finance Ministry.

Defence Ministry workers yesterday instructed workers of the purchasing mission in the U.S. to hold a shop meeting as a prelude to possible disruptions there. Today, the workers here will only arrange transportation for soldiers and supplies.

The sanctions by Interior Ministry staff continued yesterday with applications for passports, identification cards and birth certificates piling up on desks and workers refusing to process them. Last night, staff committee leaders met with Civil Service Commissioner Avraham Natan in an attempt to settle the dispute.

About 400 Israel Electric Corporation employees were sent home yesterday and six departments closed. In Ra'anana, all the IEC's offices were shut, but emergency calls from the public were dealt with.

Several departments and offices in Jerusalem, Ashdod and other parts of the central district will be shut today.

10 killed in Tripoli street battling

BEIRUT (AP). — Street battles flared with machine guns, rockets and mortars throughout yesterday in the northern Lebanese port city of Tripoli, pitting the Syrian-backed Arab Red Knights militia against irregulars of the fundamentalist Islamic Unification movement, police said.

A police statement said at least 10 persons were killed or wounded during the clashes, which tapered off at nightfall.

Druse and Christian militiamen also exchanged artillery and rocket fire after midnight in the mountains of the Kharrub region that overlooks Israel's Awali River defence line in southern Lebanon, the state radio said.

One power unit of the plant in the coastal town of Jiyeh that feeds Beirut with electricity was struck by a shell during the exchanges, causing long electrical cuts in the Lebanese capital.

Earlier, a gunman shot one bullet from a pistol equipped with a silencer into the head of French Embassy driver Raymond Vautier in West Beirut's Ein Meisseh neighbourhood, then fled on a motorcycle, police said.

The embassy's second secretary, Eric Coufal, said the wounded chauffeur was in a coma yesterday evening following emergency surgery at the American University Hospital. His condition was described as "very grave."

Argentinian attaché wanted for murders

Argentinian military attaché Colonel Mario Roberto Fornari is wanted by his government on suspicion of involvement in acts of political torture and murder during the previous military dictatorship, Fornari left Israel on Monday.

According to press reports from Argentina, Fornari has been indicted for alleged membership in the Argentinean Anti-Communist Union, a fascist organization said to be responsible for many violent political crimes during the former regime. The Argentine Embassy would not comment on the matter, other than to confirm Fornari's departure. (Ilim)

Police seek assailant of 2 Technion students

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Two students at the Technion were attacked and stabbed in their flat in Rehov Hahatzelet in the Ben-Dor quarter on Monday night, the police reported yesterday.

One of the men was stabbed in the stomach and the other was cut in the face. The men, both Arabs, were taken to the Carmel Hospital for treatment.

Police believe the attack is related to an incident the previous night, when one of the men, who works as a guard at the students club at the Technion, refused to admit some people.

The police do not know how many people were involved in the attack, but the search for the assailant continues. The police said the attack does not seem to be related to Jewish-Arab tensions.



Aharon Abuhatzira (second from right) votes in the Knesset yesterday. (Yitzhak Harari)

IN THE KNESSET/Aryeh Rubinstein

Travel-tax bill passes first reading

The coalition yesterday passed three fiscal bills on their first reading, two of the votes having been postponed last week because the coalition lacked a majority.

The bill raising the foreign travel tax to \$14,000, index-linked, passed by a vote of 53-50, with Liberals Yitzhak Berman and Dror Zeigerman voting with the opposition.

Benzion Rubin (Tami), who proposed Monday that foreign currency in excess of \$500 bought by a traveller be taxed 15 per cent, voted for the bill. So did Tami leader Aharon Abuhatzira, participating in a Knesset vote for the first time since he was given a prison sentence.

Yosef Rom (Likud-Herut) warned the finance minister against a multiplicity of taxes involving an inflated bureaucracy. He said the Treasury should concentrate on income tax, which should be reduced on low incomes and on income from production, and value-added tax (VAT), which should be increased to reduce the standard of living.

The bill reducing by 50 per cent

the pension increment paid to workers who defer their retirement beyond the age of 65 (women beyond 60) passed its first reading by a vote of 45-41.

The bill (Amendment 53 to the National Insurance Law) was presented last week by Deputy Labour Minister Benzion Rubin. He said that the original increment of 5 per cent a year had been fixed when the economy was short of workers.

The bill tightening the eligibility requirements for unemployment insurance benefits passed its first reading by a vote of 46-40.

Shinui voted with the coalition this time, Amnon Rubinstein explaining that Shinui agreed with the bill's stricter definition of "suitable work" with respect to persons under 25.

Under the bill (Amendment 54 to the National Insurance Law), the only grounds on which someone will be able to reject a job offer without forfeiting his right to benefits are that the job is unsuited to his health or physical capacity or that it would require him to change his residence.

Abuhatzira returns to the Knesset

Post Knesset Correspondent

Aharon Abuhatzira, Tami's former minister, who ended his three-month prison sentence on Monday, earned his Knesset member's salary yesterday, the first day of his return to parliamentary and political life.

Abuhatzira, who was convicted of financial fraud, entered the plenum chamber by the back rows in order to raise his hand in favour of the \$125 travel-tax proposal.

After the vote on the tax he went out, to be greeted by several MKs from various factions.

During his three-month term as a day-convict in the Prisons Service stores, the Knesset continued to credit Abuhatzira with his salary and also paid his hotel bills.

Shamir to meet with Israel Arab leaders

By YOEL DAR
Special to The Jerusalem Post

NAZARETH. — Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir is to meet today with 27 Israeli-Arab leaders to hear their requests for more money to develop their villages.

This will be Shamir's first meeting with local Arab leaders since he took office.

The chairman of the National Committee of Arab Local Councils, Ibrahim-Nimr Hussein, will boycott the meeting, saying that its

organizers did not consult him. The prime minister's adviser on Arab affairs, Binyamin Gur-Arye, initiated the meeting.

Gur-Arye said that although some of those invited are identified with the Rakah-led Democratic Front for Peace and Equality, the formation of the delegation does not represent any change of policy.

He said the idea is to give Arab leaders from all walks of life an opportunity to express their opinions to Shamir directly without

mediators.

The guests are expected to raise several domestic issues, such as increasing budgets and grants to the Arab local authorities, to enable them to build more classrooms, pave access roads, open social clubs, and narrow the social gap with the country's Jews.

Ibrahim Nimr Hussein said the organizers should have invited all 45 chairmen of the Arab local councils, or at least all those who are members of the executive.

Israel-U.S. working group to meet at end of month

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The U.S.-Israel Political-Military Working Group of senior American and Israeli defence and foreign affairs officials will meet in Washington during the last week of January. It will start working on long-term cooperative projects as called for in the agreement reached between President Ronald Reagan and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir last month.

The meeting will last only two or three days, a senior defence source said. Military correspondents yesterday said he expected decisions to form sub-committees to consider fields of cooperation. One of these is the pre-positioning of U.S. emergency stores in Israel, the source said.

Political issues such as the recent meetings between Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and PLO chief

Yasser Arafat will not be discussed. Short-term subjects, such as the policy on Lebanon, are likely to come up only in the context of long-range scenarios, he indicated.

The Israeli delegation will be headed by Defence Ministry Director-General Menahem Meron, whose previous assignment was military attaché in the U.S. and Haganah Bar-On of the Foreign Ministry.

The American team will be headed by Admiral Jonathan Howe, who is on loan to the State Department where he is director of the department's Political-Military Affairs Unit.

The source said that the imminent visit of the chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, General John Vessey Jr., has nothing to do with the meeting in Washington. The general is coming to acquaint himself with the Israel Defence Forces and no agreements are expected.

Tadiran-IAI join hands to make drones

Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Tadiran and the Israel Aircraft Industries announced yesterday they will form a joint company to produce drones.

The agreement will end the stiff competition between the IAI, which built Scout, and Tadiran, which produced the Mastiff.

A senior defence source said yesterday that the agreement was made possible after the Israel Defence Forces decided what kind of pilotless plane it wanted. The two parties then concluded it would be more economical for them — and especially for the defence establishment — to join forces, he said.

The IAI and Tadiran were in very stiff competition with each other in this country and abroad.

The agreement requires the government's approval, the Tadiran-IAI announcement said.

Parents to hold protests in schools on education cuts

By LEA LEVAVI
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Parents at schools around the country will hold protests tomorrow afternoon, or at the beginning of next week, against cuts in the education budget.

At a press conference here yesterday, Yitzhak Efron, chairman of the National Parents Association (NPA) said the original plan to hold the protest meetings simultaneously at all the schools tomorrow morning was scrapped for fear that it would become in effect a one-hour school strike. "We always tell the teachers and the ministry not to fight their battles on our children's backs," he explained.

The parents say that education, which should be one of the country's top priorities, is in practice relegated to a low place on the list. More than 130,000 hours of instruction have been cut in the past few years, they said.

They see the proposed education levy as a first step toward the end of free compulsory education, and they believe many families will take their children out of high school if tuition fees are reintroduced.

The parents are also angry about the issue of substitute teachers. They object to children's being sent home, or to arrangements that they

say "amount to no more than babysitting." Parents, they said, are willing to help on a voluntary basis, but the teachers should do their share, volunteering when no other solution is possible.

As for the idea of saving money by having children clean their classrooms, the parents say this might have educational value, but should be approached as an educational project and not as a way of using pupils to replace paid janitorial staff.

CONTRIBUTIONS. — \$330 million were collected by Akin, the roof organization for the care of retarded children, in a door-to-door collection campaign last week, the organization announced yesterday.

Guard held on suspicion of stealing from cripple

A Jerusalem man who works as a hospital security guard was arrested on Monday on suspicion of stealing \$30,000 worth of jewelry from the apartment of a handicapped woman while she was taking a bath.

The woman, who has 100 per cent disability, complained to the police that she noticed her jewelry was missing after the man had visited her. She suggested that the phone the man and ask him to return her property, which she did. When the man came to give back the jewelry, the police arrested him.

RUGBY. — A Hebrew University invitation XV will entertain the visiting Western Province Macabre team of South Africa in a rugby match at Jerusalem's Givat Ram stadium this afternoon. Kick-off is at 2.30 p.m.

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved father and grandfather

Dr. SAMUEL GARSON SLO-BODKIN

הרב שמואל גרסון סלובודקין

The funeral will take place today 29 Tevet, 5744, January 4, 1984 at 2 p.m. at the Patah-Tikva Cemetery.

Sarah Golda and Zvi Miroz and family.

Shiva at 14 Michlin Street, Bayit Veger, Jerusalem.

We have married in the family circle

YOSHUA A. ELLERN **ELIANA**
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27 TEVET 5744, 2.1.1984

Foster parent complains:

Battered children at mercy of their parents

By LEA LEVAVI
Jerusalem Post Reporter

A battered child who came to the hospital with burns on his buttocks and serious head wounds is now back with the parents who beat him.

"He told us outright that his father burned him and his mother beat him because he made trouble," the child's former foster mother said. "He added that we never did anything like that even though he made trouble in our house. He is a very clever child. He came to us at a little over two years old, unable to walk or speak. By the time he left us, he spoke both English and Hebrew and had developed fantastically."

After the child had been in the foster home for a year and a half, the social workers decided to return him home. "I suggested that we make the transition gradually by having him visit his parents once a week until we saw how it would work out," the foster mother said.

"But during the child's second visit home, the mother called me and told me not to come to fetch him. They are his natural parents, and the law is on their side. What I want to know is how much a child has to suffer before the parents lose their rights."

By chance, the former foster parents heard that the child was in the hospital less than six months after he had gone home.

As they tell the story, this was the child's second hospitalization. The first time, he came to the hospital unconscious. When he was better, he was allowed to go home, but was back again soon with burns and bruises because he kept falling. "I didn't see the medical report, but one of the doctors told me they found traces of either poison or some sort of medicine in the child's system," the foster mother said.

"During one of her visits, his mother ate the food that was meant for him. Later, he complained to the nurse that he was hungry. When she pointed out that he had already got his meal, he told her his mother had eaten it. He told us he did not want to go home because 'I don't love a father who burns me.'"

During this second hospitalization, social workers asked the doctors not to release the child (though he was physically ready to be discharged) until they planned for his future.

However, while the wheels of bureaucracy were slowly turning, the child's father arrived at the hospital and succeeded in signing the child out and taking him home. "I understand that the social workers finally decided that the child must be removed from the home," the foster mother said. "But the question is whether the child will still be alive by the time the legal procedures begin. I ask again, how much does a child have to suffer?"

Hanita Zivari, head of ELI (the Association

for Protection of the Child) could not comment on the specific case without more complete information. She had some general comments, however.

"One mistake that is made too often is to return a battered child home after the parents seem to be 'cured.' What the social workers don't always realize is that there is a world of difference between the behaviour of the parents when the child is absent and what they will do when the child returns home. When a child is returned, a very close follow-up and supervision should make sure the child is not abused again."

She said she does not understand how this particular child was released from hospital without a social worker being involved and without a treatment plan.

A spokesman for the hospital said the child was released to his father because there was no court order preventing this. In the absence of a court order, the child belongs to his parents.

The social-services department of the city where the child lives said the case is out of their hands and has been turned over to the Children's Service at the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. This unit handles adoption and cases where children must be taken from their families permanently. The worker handling the case at the service was on holiday and could not be reached for comment.

Sharon still a candidate for Agency aliya post

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The 99 members of the Herut-Hatzohar Executive are scheduled to meet in Beit Jotinsky tomorrow night to choose their nominee for the chairmanship of the Jewish Agency's aliya department. Among the nine candidates is Minister without Portfolio Ariel Sharon, whose candidacy has aroused opposition both in Israel and abroad.

Herut-Hatzohar, the Zionist party arm of Herut, is entitled to propose a candidate to replace Raphael Kolowitz, ousted some two months ago by the Jewish Agency board of governors.

Sharon has not publicly announced his interest in the aliya job, and it is not known whether he will withdraw his name from the list at the last moment. Since losing the defence portfolio, Sharon has been pressing for the establishment of a Ministry for the Jewish People, in charge of Diaspora affairs. He would like to head such a ministry and may view the aliya department as a stepping stone.

But Jewish Agency legal authorities said it is not possible to

hold a cabinet seat and an Agency executive position simultaneously. They cited the precedents of the late Pinhas Sapir and current Executive Chairman Arye Dulin, who were not permitted to do this.

Diaspora fund raisers, the majority of the Agency's board of governors, are reportedly adamantly opposed to Sharon. The board will meet next month to approve or reject Herut's nominee. The Zionist General Council will meet on Monday to confirm the Herut nominee as chairman of the World Zionist Organization's aliya division. (One person fills both posts.)

After vetoing Kolowitz as "unfit" for the job and "unable to communicate with Diaspora Jewry," it will be very difficult for the Diaspora board members to reject Sharon, as Herut activists will contend that the board members are clearly anti-Herut.

Others in the running are Herut Knesset Michael Kleiner, the director of the Israel Aliya Centre in New York, Moshe Shechter, Ambassador to Colombia Haim Aharon, Jewish National Fund deputy chairman Shlomo Ariav, and

Zionist General Council chairman Ephraim Even. Sara Frankel, a Kol Yisrael radio reporter who has completed several years as the Russian Jewry expert in the Israel consulate-general in New York, is also reportedly on the list.

Ariav, considered the leading candidate until recently, said he likes his JNF job and doesn't know whether he wants to enter the "mad race" for the aliya portfolio. He added that the candidate will be determined "not according to one's qualifications, but according to which political groupings in Herut and elsewhere support the candidates."

Suspected smuggler out on IS500,000 bail

TEL AVIV (Ilim). — A man suspected of smuggling electronic goods into the country aboard his private plane, Pinhas Cohen of Bat Yam, was yesterday released on IS500,000 bail by the Tel Aviv Magistrates Court. Cohen's two brothers were detained for six days on suspicion of the same offence.

Gov't panel opposes legalizing soft drugs

By CHARLES HOFFMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The government panel on drug abuse opposes legalizing the use of soft drugs like marijuana and hashish. It does so because, among other things, it accepts the view that regular, long-term use of such drugs has a wide range of harmful effects on the user's health.

The committee, headed by Professor Kalman Y. Mann, made its report public in Jerusalem yesterday. It contains an analysis of the current state of drug abuse in Israel and a multi-year plan for dealing with the problem. The report, which took over four years to prepare, was presented by Mann and two of its other authors, Deputy Attorney-General Yehudit Karp and Dr. Menahem Horowitz, head of the Correctional Services in the Labour and Social Affairs Ministry.

The report was recently submitted to the Ministerial Committee on Social Affairs for consideration. The panel noted that there are between 4,000 and 6,000 users addicted to hard drugs such as heroin. Sixty per cent have not served in the Israel Defence Forces, 70 per cent have run afoul of the law, and 45 per cent started using drugs before age 17. Close to 50 per cent of a sample of youth in the care of street-gang workers have used drugs, the report said.

Horowitz attempted to dispel certain popular myths about drug abuse in Israel. He said that it is not true that drug abuse has become epidemic; he rejected the view that the use of soft drugs usually leads to hard drugs; and said that there are no simple solutions for prevention or for treatment of addicts.

He said that the underworld

network of 3,000 dealers and pushers has contributed to the increase in violent crimes and crimes against property noted in recent years. The value of the drug business on the street was estimated at between IS4 billion and IS6.5b. at last year's prices.

Mann said the first stage in preventing drug use should be carried out in regular educational frameworks, and that teachers and others who work with youth should be trained in special counselling techniques to deal with the problem.

He said the problem is now endemic to Israeli society and that a concerted effort must be made to prevent the problem from spreading.

The panel proposed a multi-stage treatment process. This would begin with mental-health clinics for the

relatively mild cases and culminate in two "therapeutic communities" for long-term, intensive rehabilitation for the hard-core addicts. The entire framework would cost IS5.5m. a year at October 1982 prices.

Karp said that there was not enough social awareness of the problem or willingness to help addicts. She said that schools tend to sweep the problem under the carpet; local authorities try to block the establishment of treatment centres in their jurisdictions; and the revulsion against addicts has even led some hospital staff to turn them away from emergency rooms.

The report noted that between 300 and 400 soldiers are put on trial each year for possession of, or minor dealing in, drugs. It recommended that the IDF reconsider its practice of calling up those with a history of drug use.

Robber wounds shop owner, escapes with jewelry haul

By ROBERT ROSENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

A masked robber last night wounded a Jerusalem store owner, Mordechai Ya'acovitch, and made off with a haul of jewelry in a car stolen the night before.

The robbery, from a shop across the street from the King David Hotel, took place shortly after midnight. Within minutes of the first reports police threw up roadblocks throughout the city.

They were looking for a dark blue BMW, licence plate number 65684-SI. The car evaded a police chase the night before, when it was stolen — apparently by the same man who robbed the jewelry store.

Ya'acovitch, 72, was hospitalized in the Shaare Zedek Medical Centre last night with gunshot wounds in the leg.

Ya'acovitch's daughter and granddaughter were in the shop with him when the robber entered, and he emptied display cases into a sack. When Ya'acovitch didn't move fast enough, the robber fired several shots, smashing windows and wounding the storeowner.

The robber then grabbed the sack of jewelry and drove away.

The police arrived on the scene a few minutes later, after Ya'acovitch's daughter phoned them.

House Committee approves 10% cut in MKs' wages

By ASHER WALLFISH
Post Knesset Correspondent

The House Committee yesterday formally approved a proposal to cut 10 per cent from Knesset members' salaries, and to return the money saved to the Treasury.

Three committee members voted against the proposals on technical grounds. The cut takes effect in this month's salary.

The committee also adopted a non-binding recommendation that MKs who have additional income voluntarily waive 10 per cent of their total earnings, and another one that MKs should have no income apart from their Knesset salaries.

The 10 per cent salary cut will not lead to a cut in the pensions of present or former MKs, the committee decided.

The cut refers to the "basic pay" element in the MKs' salary slip plus

cost of living compensation, not the gross or the net salary, the committee explained.

Labour's Yossi Sarid said that the recommendation for a 10 per cent cut in overall incomes, which he had been the first to propose, should not stipulate that the funds go to the Treasury. Each MK should be allowed to choose which worthy cause would receive the funds.

Geula Cohen (Tehiya) accused the Alignment of treating the national Treasury as if it were the treasury of the Likud.

The Democratic Front for Peace and Equality described the salary cuts as "demagogic designed to cover up general salary cuts throughout the economy."

Shinui said that MKs' wages should be linked to the national wage agreements only, and not to the average wage in the economy.

Population rose 78,000 in 1983

Jerusalem Post Staff

Israel's population grew by 78,000, or 1.9 per cent, last year, to about 4,140,000, according to figures released yesterday by the Central Bureau of Statistics.

About 3,430,000 of the population is Jewish, an increase of 58,000 over 1982. The non-Jewish population rose by some 20,000, to 710,000.

Some 28,000 deaths were registered in 1983 (25,000 Jews), and 98,700 births (75,000 Jews).

According to the bureau's estimates, the fertility rate of Jewish women continued to increase in 1983, reaching an average of 2.85 children per woman, compared with 2.79 in 1982.

Among the non-Jewish population, there was a continued downward trend in the fertility rate, with an estimated average of 4.65 children per woman, as compared with 4.97 in 1982.

2 women held in raid on alleged brothel

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Police detectives posing as clients on Monday raided a brothel allegedly operated in the Shapira quarter by two Sierra Leonean women.

The brothel was said to cater mainly to tourists and residents of North Tel Aviv. Police said its sexual services were supplied by one of the women, 24, while her partner, 22, stood beside her and watched.

Vice-squad detectives had stakes out the suspected brothel for a few days, and observed a lively flow of men to and from the building.

Detectives questioned several men who said the price of sexual rela-

tions there ranged from IS1,000 to IS1,500.

At 6 p.m. on Monday, three detectives entered the house. Detective Ya'acov Bendel, who speaks fluent English, said they were sent by a friend.

One of the women allegedly told him the fee was IS1,000.

As soon as he paid her, Bendel identified himself as a police officer and arrested her and her partner. The two are to be brought to magistrate's court today for remand.

The police are investigating whether the two suspects are in the country legally.

Court rules it's OK to shoot menacing dog

TEL AVIV (Ilim). — The Tel Aviv District Court ruled yesterday that a man was in his rights when he shot and killed a menacing dog in the street. In so ruling, the court overturned the Rehovot Magistrates Court's conviction of the man.

Yeheskel Brody, 48, said he was attacked by the dog, a cross between a Boxer and a German Shepherd. He maintained that he

shot the animal in self-defence. The prosecution argued that not every barking dog bites, and that Brody should have fired in the air first, to scare the animal.

The district court ruled that a person could not be expected to wait for the dog to bite him before defending himself. It also criticized the police for deciding to prosecute and wasting the time of two courts over the matter.

Court revokes licence of motorcyclist for life

REHOVOT (Ilim). — The owner of a motorcycle garage in Petal Tikva, aged 27, yesterday had his motorcycle-driving licence revoked for life, was forbidden to drive any other vehicle for five years and was fined IS50,000.

Petal Tikva Traffic Court Judge Ya'acov Bashan found the man guilty of reckless driving that endangered his own life and that of

others on the road between Geha and Mesubin junctions, when he zigzagged among the cars and rode without holding the handlebars.

HEAT. — The Sonol fuel company is donating 5,000 litres of kerosene for heating the homes of elderly people in Jerusalem, following a request by the Energy Ministry.

Ata dismisses 250 in recovery effort

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — More than 250 workers have been dismissed from the Ata textile concern's factories and workshops in Haifa and the north as part of the firm's recovery plan. One hundred more workers are expected to be laid off soon, The Jerusalem Post was told yesterday.

The recovery programme calls for the dismissal of 550 workers and the closure of several non-profitable production lines, including towels and diapers.

Yisrael Flaxman, chairman of the executive committee of Ata's board of directors, said the company hoped that these goals could be achieved by the end of this month. The firm would then move on to the second stage of its streamlining programme.

"Management and workers are

making every effort to achieve these goals. If this positive attitude is maintained, I think we will be able to see some light at the end of the tunnel," he said.

Flaxman met management representatives and members of the Ata works committee at his Tel Aviv office yesterday to outline to them details of the recovery plan and explain the delay in appointing a new general manager to replace David Arbel, who resigned on December 31. He said Arbel's successor will be appointed in the next few days.

"When we have completed stage one of the recovery programme, we will be able to move onto the next phase, which will include seeing what are the best ways of investing in the company and boosting exports," Flaxman said.

Former Austrian 'lied about crime'

The State Attorney's office has charged that a former Austrian citizen, who petitioned the High Court of Justice to prevent her extradition to Austria, lied about the reason for her seven-year jail sentence in that country. The court delayed her extradition.

Deputy State Attorney Yosef Ben-Or told the High Court yesterday that the woman, Elinora Kirshenbaum, and her husband were found guilty of torture and neglect of a child (Kirshenbaum's niece).

In her petition, Kirshenbaum maintained that she had been found

guilty of "neglect in aggravating circumstances." In fact, charged Ben-Or, the couple were found guilty of beating and injuring the child and preventing treatment of her injuries. The child subsequently died.

Noting that Elinora Kirshenbaum is a Christian and her husband, who died shortly after the couple arrived in Israel in September 1982, was a Jew, Ben-Or charges that the couple jumped bail and came to Israel only to escape their justified jail sentence.

The State Attorney is asking the High Court to uphold the ruling of the Tel Aviv District Court that Kirshenbaum be extradited. (Ilim)

Hebrew U. engineer detained for stealing

An electrical engineer who works at the Hebrew University is to be brought before a Jerusalem magistrate today for extension of his remand on suspicion of stealing electronic equipment from the university's Givat Ram campus. Police say that the engineer has confessed to stealing the equipment during the past year.

Police say they found in his home in Kiryat Menahem yesterday five cases of computers, oscilloscopes,

tape recorders and other electronic equipment. A storage room in his yard had 600 video cassettes, 30 telephones of different types and electric light bulbs.

The man reportedly told police he had taken the items in order to help his son, who is studying electronics. The suspect, who has been working for the university for 16 years, will be sent on leave until the matter is concluded. (Ilim)

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Pie-eyed

A glass of wine and a cake or pie is the ideal way to entertain friends, writes Jeanne Weisgal.



greased loaf pans, 23 x 12 1/2 cm. (9 x 5 inches).

Bake in a preheated 177°C. (350°F.) oven for 30 minutes to 1 hour or until the cakes are slightly resilient.

Cool in the pans for 30 minutes. Turn out onto racks to cool completely. Cut into slices and dust with sifted powdered sugar, if desired. Store the cake in the fridge until eaten.

Toasted Coconut Pie
(In honour of my father, who loved a coconut pie.)
Makes a 28 cm. (11 inch) pie, or two 9-inch pies.

2 cups grated coconut
6 eggs, separated
1/2 cup each: sugar, cornstarch
1/2 tsp. salt
2 1/2 cups milk
45 gr. butter
1 1/2 tsp. vanilla
1 recipe single Cookie Pie Crust (below)

In a shallow baking pan, spread coconut evenly. Toast in a preheated 120°C. (250°F.) oven for 40 minutes, shaking the pan occasionally, until the coconut is golden. Cool and set aside.

In a mixing bowl, whisk egg-whites. Gradually add sugar, cornstarch and salt, combining well. In a saucepan, bring milk to the scalding point. Add the egg-yolk mixture, whisking constantly. Cook, whisking, until the mixture is thick and smooth.

Remove from the heat and add butter. Stir until the butter is melted. Add 1 1/2 cups of the toasted coconut, reserving the rest. Mix to combine.

Quickly beat egg-whites until stiff. Fold them into the coconut-egg mixture, gently but thoroughly. Add vanilla, mix, and cool the mixture.

When cool, pour the mixture into the prepared pie shell. Sprinkle the top with the reserved coconut. Chill until firm.

Keep refrigerated until eaten.

Cookie Pie Crust
Makes a single 28 cm. (11 inch) pie crust.

200 gm. (about 2 cups) crushed Petit Biscuits cookies (see Note)
150 gm. melted sweet butter or unsalted margarine

Combine butter or margarine with the crumbs. Press evenly into the bottom and sides of the pie pan, using fingers. Bake in a preheated 190°C. (375°F.) oven for 15 minutes until lightly browned. Cool on a rack. Note: Graham crackers, chocolate cookies or ginger snaps can be easily substituted for the biscuits.

A day in the life of: Chief bottlewasher

Michelle Cameron spends a hectic day with a hotel chief steward.

THE VERY first thing Ron Black did, on sitting down to a breakfast interview at the Jerusalem Hilton, was to examine the dishes on the table, and send back a coffee cup which wasn't sufficiently clean.

"What does the chief steward of a hotel do?" he said in reply to my question. "Well, mainly, he's the chief dishwasher!"

Actually, there is a bit more involved in his job than that. Ron may be the Jerusalem Hilton's "chief bottlewasher," but he is also in charge of anticipating the hotel's china and cutlery needs a year in advance, and making sure that the hotel never runs out of these items, no matter what the demand. He sees to it that those utensils not in use are properly stored, and he controls breakage and coordinates catering affairs both inside and outside of the hotel. With an extensive hotel background which began when he worked in his grandparents' Catskills Inn, New York hotel as a busboy, Ron takes the juggling act he often has to deal with in his stride.

"There's a lot of pressure involved," he admits. "A lot of people depend on the smooth running of my department. There are times, like yesterday, when the Hilton catered an affair that took place in eight different homes! At times like these, the logistics involved often take on the dimensions of an army operation."

Walking through the kitchen and dishwashing areas, Ron points out the colour-coded cleaning formulas. "A lot of my staff are illiterate, so we have to colour-code everything. It's really a contradiction in terms — my department is considered to be made up of unskilled labour. We have to train these men to care for equipment which is very expensive. For example, we sent out eight chafing dishes yesterday, which cost several hundred dollars apiece. Had something happened to one of these, it might have made the difference between making and losing money on the affair."

The first order of the day is to hire a new worker.

Ron is very excited about this boy, a Christian Arab from Beit Jala.

"If we can get a few more Christians integrated with the Muslim workers here," he explains to his assistant, Giora Itzhaki, "we'll be able to stop paying extra holiday fees every Friday." The Muslims will be able to enjoy their Friday off, the Christians, their Sunday, and the work — which must be done seven days a week — will still get done.

Back in the kitchens — the spare, pepper-and-salt-haired Ron spends a minimum of time just sitting in his office, a tiny room just large enough

for a single desk and three chairs — Ron keeps a constant eye out for his workers. It is clear that the men working under him respect him. A single word is enough for things to be corrected, whether it means picking up broken china from the floor, or putting wine glasses away properly.

"If everything isn't put immediately away in its proper place," explains Ron, "we'll have a mess we won't be able to cope with very soon. In a hotel of this size, keeping order is of utmost importance."

Passing the large, shining ovens, Ron checks for cleanliness by rubbing his finger in the hard-to-reach nooks and crannies. "It may look clean," he says, "but it has to really be clean all the way through. A housewife might clean her oven once a week, if she's a good housewife. Here, the hotel ovens are cleaned daily." Ron examines his finger, which is now covered with grease. "See that? That's soft grease, from today. If it were hard and crusty, I'd know that the job had not been done properly."

Returning to his office, Ron makes a call to the Hilton's chief buyer. He has received approval for a new serving set that he wants to buy for the hotel's gourmet restaurant. The buyer, who purchases for both the Tel Aviv and Jerusalem Hilton, and thereby brings down costs considerably, receives the details.

"This set will be coming from Italy," Ron explains. "Most of our china is from England. In order to import it, we have to show cause why we cannot buy similar articles in Israel. We tried to let an Israeli company try to copy our china. The only thing they succeeded with — and I don't know why this should be true — was the cups and saucers. Everything else came out much too heavy. We would rather deal with Israeli companies, but until their quality and their service is good enough, we just can't do it."

Together with Giora, he checks the hotel's list of events for the coming week. A fashion reception which is taking place one evening gives the two stewards pause. "Plastic spoons!" explodes Ron. "They want us to serve them with plastic spoons? I don't even think we have any in stock. You'll have to check," he tells Giora, and then reconsiders. "In fact, I'm not at all sure we should agree to this. After all, there is the Hilton's reputation to consider." The two decide to think about it, and make a decision whether or not to question the order later.

Reputation — I learn later while checking the storeroom — is all-important at a five-star hotel. Ron points out pieces which appear in

perfectly good, if somewhat worn condition to me. The Hilton would never consider using them. "I tried to make the management consider going over to stainless steel cutlery, which is a lot easier to care for than silver," he says. "They thought I was crazy."

Giora has brought down the coffee machine from the hotel's management offices, which Ron has promised to clean. He does so very carefully, using an acidic cleaning agent to remove all the lime deposits from the inside. "I tried this at home on my wife's copper teakettle," he laughs, "and took off the copper finish on the outside as well as the time!"

All around us is the steam and sound of the dishwasher. The Hilton, has two such machines — one for meat and the other for milk. Giora stands on one side, supervising the workers. When the machine is switched off close to lunch time, the sudden silence is deafening.

At lunch, Ron once again gives a covert glance to the cutlery. This time he finds nothing to criticize. On our way out, he is stopped by the head waiter. "Teaspoons, Ron, we need more teaspoons." From the sound of his voice, it is a serious matter. Ron seems to think so, too. "There are too many in the rooms," he says. "I'll have to speak to the chambermaids about it."

After lunch we head up to the accounting department to pick up the staff's paycheck. On the way, Ron stops in the engineering department to look in on a "sick" ice-making machine. Picking up a piece of ice, he tastes it critically. "No more iodine taste," is his verdict. "Good."

Back in his office, Ron begins distributing the paychecks. He compliments one of the men. "I've kept my eye on you, habibi," he says, "and you're getting a lot better. I told you, you could work like a real person, and you're proving me right. Keep it up!"

The final task of the afternoon is making out the transportation list for the weekend. The men who come in on Friday evenings and on Saturdays have to be picked up and taken home. The rapidity with which Ron fills out the names and puts in the appropriate destinations, shows how well he really understands his staff.

A day with Ron Black, chief steward, shows one thing very clearly. Behind the perfectly arranged place-settings and shining silver of the Jerusalem Hilton is a lot of elbow grease and concentration. And the tranquility of the hotel's dining hall is due, in a large part, to its "chief bottlewasher!"

Life style is edited by Joanna Yehiel.

each part into a rectangle, 38 x 23 cm. (15 x 9 inches). Spread each rectangle with one-third of the butter. Sprinkle each rectangle with one-third of the brown sugar, one-third of the cinnamon, and one-third of the raisins. Roll up each rectangle, tightly — jelly-roll style — starting with a short side.

Place seam side down in three well-greased loaf pans, 23 x 12 1/2 cm. (9 x 5 inches). Cover the pans with a towel and let sit in a warm place until doubled, about 30 to 45 minutes.

Brush each loaf with melted butter and bake in a preheated 190°C. (375°F.) oven for 30 to 40 minutes, until browned.

Remove the loaves from the pans and cool on racks. If desired, the loaves can be iced with:

Powdered Sugar Frosting
60 gm. sweet butter, well softened
1 cup powdered sugar, sifted
1 egg-yolk (freezes the white)
1 tsp. vanilla

Combine the ingredients thoroughly in a small bowl. Let the bowl sit over hot water for 15 minutes, stirring occasionally, before spreading or drizzling over the cooled loaves.

Rum Buns
Makes 30 buns.

1 recipe Basic Coffee Cake Dough
150 gm. raisins
6 tbs. light rum
2 tsp. rum extract
90 gm. sweet butter, well softened
1/2 cup sugar mixed with 2 tsp. ground cinnamon

Icing:
2 cups powdered sugar, sifted
4 to 5 tbs. light rum
1/2 cup pecans, finely chopped

Soak the raisins in the 6 tbs. rum for two hours. Drain, reserve the rum for the icing, and set aside.

Make basic coffee cake dough, adding the rum extract to the milk mixture. Divide the dough into two parts.

With a floured rolling pin, roll each part into a rectangle, 35 x 23 cm. (14 x 9 inches). Spread each rectangle with half of the butter. Sprinkle each with half of the cinnamon-sugar mixture and half of the drained raisins. Roll up each rectangle, tightly — jelly-roll style, starting with a long side.

With a floured, serrated knife, cut each roll into 15 equal pieces. Lay pieces, cut side down, barely touching, in two well-greased 33 x 23 x 5 cm. (13 x 9 x 2 inch) baking pans. Cover the pans with a towel and let sit in a warm place until doubled, about 30 minutes.

Bake the buns in a preheated 190°C. (375°F.) oven for 30 to 40 minutes, until browned.

Combine powdered sugar with

enough rum, using the reserved rum from the raisins, to make a spreading consistency. Add the pecans and mix well. Spread the icing over the buns while they are still hot and still in the pans. Remove and separate into buns.

Slicky Buns
Makes 30 buns.

1 recipe Basic Coffee Cake Dough
90 gm. sweet butter, well softened
1 cup brown sugar, tightly packed
1/2 cup pecans, finely chopped
100 gm. raisins, dusted with 1 tbs. flour

3 tsp. ground cinnamon
8 tbs. light corn syrup
2 cups light corn syrup

Make basic coffee cake dough. Divide the dough into two parts.

With a floured rolling pin, roll each part into a square, 35 x 35 cm. (14 x 14 inches). Spread each square with half of the butter. Sprinkle each with half of the sugar, half of the pecans, half of the raisins and half of the cinnamon. Drizzle each with 4 tbs. of corn syrup. Roll up each square, tightly, jelly-roll style. Pour 1 cup corn syrup into each of two well-greased 33 x 23 x 5 cm. (13 x 9 x 2 inch) baking pans, tilting the pan until the syrup covers the bottom.

With a floured, serrated knife, cut each roll into 15 equal pieces. Lay the pieces, cut side down, barely touching, onto the syrup. Cover the pans with a towel and let sit in a warm place until doubled, about 30 minutes.

Bake the buns in a preheated 190°C. (375°F.) oven for 30 to 40 minutes until browned. Invert the buns, immediately, onto a rack set over a jelly roll pan and let cool. Separate into buns.

Carrot Cake
Makes two loaves.

550 gm. carrots, peeled, shredded
200 gm. butter or margarine, cut up
2 cups sugar
1 tsp. grated orange peel
1/2 cup water
3 large eggs
2 1/2 cups flour, sift before measuring
1 tbs. ground cinnamon
2 tsp. ground cloves
1 tbs. baking powder
1 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. each: salt, ground allspice, ground nutmeg

100 gm. raisins, dusted with 1 tbs. flour

In a saucepan, combine carrots, butter or margarine, sugar, orange peel and water. Bring to a boil, stirring, and simmer for 5 minutes. Cool. In a large mixing bowl, beat eggs until lemon-coloured. Sift dry ingredients and add to the eggs along with the carrot mixture. Stir just until combined. Add raisins and mix. Pour the batter into two well-

cheese, carefully pour soup over toast which will then float. Add more cheese and a sprinkling of cayenne pepper, if desired, and brown quickly under broiler.

Hearty Mutton Broth

500 gr. leeks
100 gr. (1/2 cup) pearl barley
2 1/2 litres cold water
200 gr. (1 cup) split peas
1 lge. turnip cut into eights
2 carrots cut into quarters
1 kilo mutton, lean
salt and pepper to taste
1 tbs. chopped parsley for garnish.

Soak peas overnight, and then put them into a large saucepan with mutton and water. Bring to a boil and simmer for 1 hour. Add vegetables, barley and seasoning, cook 'til meat is tender.

Serve meat separately. If you prefer a thinner broth, add more water. Garnish with parsley.

Broth for winter

Bessie Springson cooks up a soup storm.

Continually stirring over moderate heat until just below boiling point.

Add flowerets and simmer gently over very low heat for 30 minutes. (To avoid burning it is best to stand the saucepan on an asbestos mat.)

Add nutmeg, salt and pepper.

Strain the soup. Purée 1/2 of the cauliflower, reserve remainder. Add puréed cauliflower to the soup and bring slowly to the boil. Simmer for 10 minutes stirring occasionally.

Crumble reserved 1/2 cauliflower. Dust lightly with a teaspoon of flour and sauté in remaining margarine. Beat egg-yolk with cream and add to simmering soup, beating very well. Add sautéed cauliflower (and parsley, if desired) as a garnish.

French Onion Soup (dairy)
6 med. onions, coarsely grated or finely chopped

1/2 cup butter, melted

Make basic coffee cake dough. Divide the dough into three parts. With a floured rolling pin, roll

Cream of Cauliflower Soup

750 gr. cauliflower
5 cups milk
1 med. onion
90 gr. (6 tbs.) margarine
1 tbs. flour + 1 tsp. flour
Parsley, 4 stalks
1 clove
1 bayleaf
1/2 tsp. ground nutmeg
2 egg-yolks
1/2 cup cream
salt and pepper to taste
chopped parsley for garnish (optional).

Wash cauliflower well and break into small flowerets. Heat milk to scalding point with onion, parsley, bayleaf and clove, and keep it just under boiling point for about 20 min. Strain, discard flavourings.

Melt half the margarine in a large heavy-based saucepan and stir in the flour. Cook for about 1 minute. Gradually add the scalded milk con-

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The bears take full command

TEL AVIV — The "bears," the perennial pessimists, appeared to have taken full command of the stock exchange yesterday. The pessimism is based on a continuous stream of negative economic news. Prices of basic foodstuffs and electricity have been jacked up again. The foreign debt has ballooned to more than \$22 billion.

The credit crunch is accompanied by escalating interest rates, which are as high as 525 percent on an annual basis. Moreover, the hopes for mitigating the ongoing rate of inflation are being shattered, as the cost of goods continues to rise, and the Treasury continues to print money, to the tune of \$126 billion in December alone, and government budgets are not being cut.

The public is beginning to show a growing resentment at being asked to shoulder the burden of the corrective measures.

In view of all this it is little wonder that the public has lost its taste for shares and bonds. Furthermore, the public apparently has also grown weary of hanging on to bank shares. The pace of unloading of the bank shares accelerated yesterday, if not for the intervention of the Bank of Israel, which is acting as an agent for the Treasury, the prices of the bank shares would have fallen precipitously.

The statistics were appalling. A full 192 shares fell by more than five percent. Hardest hit of all were the

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

By JOSEPH MORGENTHAU

recently registered Mashov shares, as their price collapsed by nearly 24 percent. Another 57 securities were established as "sellers only."

The index-linked bond market, which by all rights should have responded to the new price rise with a healthy upward move, failed to do so. Some price rises were to be seen in selected groups, but the general impression was that the Bank of Israel was acting as a "traffic policeman" in moving prices in an upward direction.

The shekel was devalued by some 78 agorot against the dollar.

The General Share Index, down by 3.82 percent, the last development, real estate and citrus plantation group was veritably swamped, and its index fell by a whopping 7.04 percent. The trade and services group was 5.28 percent lower.

Among bank and bankholding issues, not part of the Treasury agreement, the going was sticky. Danot 5.0 was 15.2 percent lower, FIBI was 10.2 percent lower.

Mortgage bank issues were lower, as Binyan was down to 951 in the aftermath of a six percent drop. The Carmel C option was down by more than 24 percent.

In the specialized financial in-

situation sector Clal Leasing 0.5 fell by 15.1 percent, while the 0.1 shares were "sellers only" for the second session. When trading resumes today these shares could tumble by a substantial margin, as all price movement restrictions will be dropped.

In the insurance group the options were sharply lower, as the Hassneh option was 45 percent down, while the Aryeh option was nearly 20 percent down. Phoenix 0.1 and Zion 1 were established as "sellers only" for the second session.

Ten percent losses clearly predominated the services and trade group. Computer shares were sharply lower, with Nikov 0.5 losing 14.5 percent. While the other computer shares fell, the shares of Ya'ane mysteriously advanced by 6.7 percent. The Ya'ane options were an even better feature, with a 9.2 percent rise. The "gnomes of Tel Aviv" apparently must be at work in the trading of the Ya'ane securities.

Land development, real estate and citrus plantation issues just plain collapsed. Mehadrin 0.1 led the way down with a 21.1 percent fall. Losses of up to 10 percent prevailed throughout the group.

The ten percent losses persisted throughout the industrial sector. Here the options were particularly hard hit, with price slides of up to 25.8 percent. In addition to the many issues which fell by 10 percent there were many securities that wound up as "sellers only."

Zikil 5.0 was traded and it slipped 7.5 percent lower. The Zikil 1 shares were "sellers only" for the second session. Schollerina fell 15 percent, and the hapless Rogosin Industries shares were down to 89 in the aftermath of a 10.1 percent drop. Elron was unchanged, but Arit fell by 10.7 percent. Hamatul was nearly 15 percent lower. Taya fell by 10.2 percent. Technological Resources absorbed a 15 percent loss.

It was just a case of more of the same by the time trading rolled around to the investment equity group. The Israel Corporation shares were down by 8.3 and 9.9 percent. The shares of Discount Investments, which are generally acknowledged to be vastly underpriced, were nearly five percent lower. Clal Israel 5 shares were nine percent lower. Piryon fell by 15.3 percent, to an even 100.

Losses of up to 10 percent were to be noted in the oil group.

Security	Price	Change	% change
Leumi	1375	204.638.5m	n.c.
Hapoelim R	2180	127.052.6m	n.c.
Mizrahi R	1322	88.038.6m	n.c.
Shares traded:		15,691.4m	
Convertible:		15,138.3m	
Bonds:		15,599.9m	

Bank of Israel exchange rates

January 3, 1983	IS
U.S. dollar	109.7101
British sterling	157.4340
German mark	39.9622
French franc	13.0689
Dutch guilder	35.5682
Swiss franc	49.9591
Norwegian krona	14.1388
Danish krone	11.0303
Finnish mark	18.7812
Canadian dollar	88.1241
Australian dollar	98.7665
South African rand	89.7483
Belgian franc (10)	19.5701
Austrian schilling (10)	56.6553
Italian lire (100)	6.5758
Japanese yen (100)	—
Jordanian dinar	292.93
Lebanese lira	20.22
Egyptian pound	94.6250

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Galei Zohar 2	114	269	-15.2
Don Hotels 1	449	1	-2.2
Don Hotels 2	925	1	-4.4
Corral Beach	230	903	n.c.
Yarden Hotel	157	185	-17.0
Yarden Hotel op	42	233	+9.1
Yahalom op	67	100	-3.4
Yahalom op	41	28	-1.3

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Editor and
Managing DirectorTHE JERUSALEM
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Tevet 29, 5744 • Rabi-Awwal 30, 1404

Our sick political economy

IN DECEMBER, the Treasury printed the staggering amount of IS28 billion — nearly half the sum which the finance minister wants to cut from government spending in the whole of fiscal 1984.

The news may be shocking, but it could hardly have come as a surprise. Shocking, because we already know that no one really plans to cut actual government spending, and that all the cuts for which Mr. Cohen-Orad must still do battle with his fellow ministers are over the elimination of planned increases in outlays. Shocking, too, because even these have already been whittled down from the original \$1b. proposed by Mr. Cohen-Orad to \$600m. Shocking also because the planned redistribution of government expenditures is to be carried out in cynical disregard of social justice.

Finally, it is shocking because it suggests that none of the objectives which this newest of new economic policies has set itself will be achieved. That is why Bank of Israel Governor Moshe Mandelbaum has now come out for a law to prevent the government from printing the cash it is intent on spending.

Yet while shocking, it is not surprising, because when the economy is heading into a recession under the impact of measures the government has taken since October, the first thing to dry up is government revenues. With fewer imports, particularly of the kind that carry very high taxes, there is less revenue from customs duties and the like. With business slowing down, less value added tax is collected.

But while tax revenue is falling, the government must in the short run go on spending as before. Virtually all its expenditures in the short run are contractual commitments that cannot be evaded. Moreover, with the rate of inflation we now have, any effective control of outlays becomes impossible, and the result is printing money on a massive scale.

This injection of cash into the economy last month was actually predicted in the policy document Mr. Cohen-Orad placed on the cabinet table last week, which states frankly that government revenues are expected to decline.

The truth of the matter is that this government is bound to political commitments that are beyond the resources of the country — in Lebanon, in settling the West Bank, and, above all, in keeping the coalition together.

Therefore, the battle that is still being fought in the cabinet over implementation of the budget cuts is likely to be a stage battle, intended to keep this government in power for a few months more, rather than to extricate the country from crisis.

Stirring the embers of 242

THE POSSIBILITY of "amending" U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 has been mooted for some time, with no results. Now it is reported that France intends to push for such an amendment, that would make the resolution call not for a just settlement of the refugee problem but of the problem of the Palestinian people, whose "legitimate rights" would be formally acknowledged.

Strictly speaking, of course, a resolution once passed by the Security Council cannot be amended. But a new resolution may be passed, incorporating the language of the old text with changes, and additions. This, apparently, is what the French have in mind.

France, reportedly, will try to take advantage of its current elevation to the chair of the European Community in order to enlist the support of its continental neighbours for this initiative. And it already has the active support of Egypt, which is hoping to bring Jordan and the PLO into a dialogue with the U.S. for a renewed effort to settle the Palestinian problem in line with the "moderate" Arab consensus.

Plainly, the French initiative stands no chance without American cooperation. But Washington is wedded to the original version of 242, in which the Camp David accord is anchored. Thus, even if Fatah's executive committee, at its recent meeting in Tunis, turns out to have empowered Yasser Arafat to take the political road, it is not very likely that the U.S. will seek to accommodate the PLO by destroying the very constitutional basis for the current U.S. peace effort.

Yet if King Hussein does receive the go-ahead signal from the PLO chief, which is still Arafat's title, to enter into negotiations over the future of the occupied territories, the U.S. may view this as warrant to put pressure on Israel to join the process, while making it clear that Washington does not see eye-to-eye with Jerusalem on the meaning of the original 242.

Israel, for its part, is, needless to say, hospitable to the idea of peace talks with Jordan, so long as they are conducted within the framework of 242 and Camp David. But Israel's understanding of these two fundamental texts is solely its own.

In Israel's view, the duty of withdrawal enshrined in 242 does not apply to Judea, Samaria and Gaza, which may legitimately be settled so that they will eventually be fully annexed. Camp David, it is believed, recognizes "the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and their just requirements" only to the extent that such rights and interests are expressed through an Israel-style autonomy.

The U.S. has never endorsed the Israeli interpretations, and it is not endorsing them now, under the presidency of the friendly Ronald Reagan. If a press report in the U.S. is to be credited, Mr. Reagan is prepared to repeat, in this election year, President Eisenhower's 1956 performance in pressing Israel by using leverage for "peace in the West Bank" — meaning in a West Bank that will — most of it — be detached from Israel and associated with Jordan.

Because of Arab obduracy, a revived American initiative may yet come to naught. But the "danger" to Israel, in the long run, plainly stems not from a revision of 242 but from differences with the U.S. over the meaning of the resolution.

Keeping order in the Alignment

By SUSAN HATTIS ROLEF

THERE ARE TWO extremely disturbing phenomena in the Alignment Knesset faction today. One concerns discipline, the other efforts by sectarian interests within the faction to change the delicate balance in the Alignment, or even bring about its dissolution by devious means. These developments are especially disturbing, since they come at a time when harmony and unity ought to be Labour's mottoes.

The dismissal a week ago of Mapam MK Imri Ron from the Knesset Finance Committee by the Alignment faction chairman, MK Moshe Shahal, is perhaps an extreme warning to all those who do not wish to see a further deterioration.

Shahal did not consult any of the faction's official institutions before taking these drastic measures, although prior to last week's Finance Committee meeting, he did inform the committee's Alignment members that he would make a statement if Ron did not vote with the Alignment on a Finance Ministry proposal to reduce the salaries of judges, ministers and deputy ministers by 10 per cent.

In fact, Shahal made no statement, but informed MK Eitan Livni, chairman of the House Committee, of Ron's dismissal. He did not even go to the trouble of proposing a replacement for Ron on the Finance Committee — which would at least have made his action look like a casual "changing of the guard." It was Livni who announced the dismissal in the Knesset plenum.

Mapam decided, in the wake of the dismissal, to freeze all active participation in the Alignment — straining relations to a new breaking point — until Ron's seat on the Finance Committee was restored to

him. But the rift was on its way to being mended when Labour Party chairman persuaded Mapam to agree to a compromise whereby Ron would get back his seat after a fortnight's suspension if Shahal admitted that he had acted without authority.

The question of whether the salaries of men in senior posts should be reduced and what the Labour position on it should be is itself part of a separate and important issue dealing with the proposed cut in our general standard of living. Whether the voting of the opposition should be based on principles, self-interest or the desire to embarrass the government is another question. And whether Shahal acted in accordance with Knesset regulations is again best left to the many well-versed lawyers inside and outside the House.

WHAT I WOULD like to address myself to is the question of how this whole ugly incident reflects on the Alignment.

One may argue that, having decided he could not accept the faction's position, Ron (who, incidentally, protested against the way the faction had adopted its position after the Labour members of the Finance Committee had decided against imposing party discipline) should have informed the faction that he was unwilling to vote against the government's proposal, and asked to be replaced at the committee meeting by someone who was willing to toe the party line. He could then have issued a press release or given a news conference to make his own position on the issue quite clear.

But Ron decided to risk a reprimand and fight his battle post factum, since he had not been given an opportunity to present his case to

the faction previously. Whether Ron acted judiciously or not, it is clear that Shahal's rush and uncomradely reaction turned Ron, in the eyes of many — and especially those who dislike Shahal's high-handed manner — into a persecuted saint, the scapegoat of a faction machine which tends to disregard the basic rules of democracy, and doesn't always appear to be serving the interests of the faction as a whole.

There are many rumours as to why Shahal decided to act as he did, and why he picked out Ron for "special treatment" from among the flock of disobedient Alignment MKs.

Last year, MK Yehzekel Zakai, guilty of a similar "misdemeanour" when he voted with the opposition in the Finance Committee, was let off lightly. This week, MK Shoshana Arbel-Almosoloni, in her capacity of chairman of the Knesset Interior Committee, invited Interior Minister Yosef Burg to her committee to ask him whether the time had not come to allow Jews to pray on the Temple Mount. This is contrary to the official policy of the party on whose list her name appears in second place. She was not dismissed — despite the furor her act caused. And what goes on in the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee would fill volumes.

Shahal must be aware of the fact that there are many Mapam members who would like to see the dissolution of the Alignment, and that Ron is one of the principal proponents (together with the Mapam "old guard") of keeping Mapam and the Labour Party together.

Does Shahal believe that, by this dismissal, he made a positive contribution to keeping the Alignment aligned? If he wants to break up the

Dry Bones



Alignment (and there are those who believe he does) there are more elegant ways of doing so.

THE RESOLUTION of this crisis will not cure one of the faction's basic ills: lack of discipline.

It is no secret that maintaining discipline within the Alignment in the Knesset is no simple job, and the knowledge that the coalition has even greater disciplinary difficulties is no great source of comfort.

The Alignment whip, MK Edna Solodur, is frequently at her wit's end, trying to stop "her" MKs sneaking out of the House when they are needed in the plenum, and trying to prevent private "pairing-off" arrangements. (This is one of the few examples of close cooperation between members of the coalition and the opposition — arrangements which have no legal validity.) Yet, all her efforts to get the Alignment executive to do something

about the problem seem to be in vain.

If Shahal believes that he is going to solve the faction's disciplinary problem by means of *dikans* and summary dismissals of colleagues from committees, he is sadly mistaken.

Of course something should be done about discipline: indeed, something must be done if the Alignment hopes to bring the government down in the course of the 10th Knesset. But the way to take advantage of the coalition's disunity is through unity, not inter-factional intrigues.

Last week's shameful incident contributes nothing to the improvement of the Alignment's performance. It certainly does not help those who are trying to convince the public that things would be different if the Alignment were in power.

The writer is a free-lance writer, translator and researcher.

Economic fairy-tale

By STEVEN E. PLAUT

VICES or by playing the stock market. In addition, his enterprise would help the country to absorb new immigrants, since, as is well-known, Jews from New York are exceedingly fond of bagels.

Nonetheless, the ministry delayed reaching a decision. At this point the Jew expressed interest in setting up a small subsidiary in Galilee or Samaria. The ministry decided to grant the request, and his enterprise was "approved."

AS THE OWNER of an "approved enterprise," the Jew received a number of subsidized loans, some unlinked, and allocations of land and water. He also received a grant on the basis of being an "infant industry." The Chief Scientist in the Ministry of Industry and Trade gave him a grant to develop new methods of hole manufacture through computerization and

robotics. The Ministry of Religious Affairs gave him a *kashrut* certificate. The Finance Ministry promised to treat his inventories as non-protected assets, subject to accelerated depreciation under the Law of Taxation in Inflationary Conditions. The Ministry of Labour funded a new programme to retrain unemployed academics in high-tech hole manufacture.

The Jew then returned to the Ministry of Industry and Trade. He explained that he was having great difficulty getting his enterprise established, due to the dumping of cheap imports from abroad. Holes were being sent to Israel at ridiculously low prices, he said, and this posed a threat to the viability and profitability of his company. The difficulties were immediately discussed, and a series of new measures were adopted to assist him.

The ministry instructed the army and government institutions not to buy any bagel without a blue-and-white hole manufactured in Israel at the Jew's factory. The excise tax on bagels produced by factories who did not buy his holes was increased, while the VAT on bagels containing his holes was cut. He was offered "exchange rate insurance" at very liberal terms for any holes he would ship abroad, as well as non-linked directed credit at 30 per cent interest from the fund to support production for export.

But the financial hardships continued. And so the Ministry of Industry and Trade decided to set up a cartel for the Jew, and forbade any sale of holes by competitors outside the quotas set. As a result, he was able to set up additional factories for producing holes for the manufacturers of car tires and wedding bands, which were required to buy his output. The Council for Hole Marketing was established to aid exports of Israeli holes abroad. The Ministry of Science and Infrastructure announced plans for a new space agency — to explore black holes, made in Israel, of course.

Alas, the corporation still was in the red. If something were not done, the Jew said, he would be forced to lay off workers, worsening the recession. The workers' committee set up pickets in Jerusalem, and sent

copies of their pay cheques to the TV station and the newspapers to show how badly they were paid. The Histadrut announced warning sanctions to show solidarity with the struggling hole workers. Rumours spread about the emigration of some frustrated hole workers.

THE GOVERNMENT set up a public commission to study the industry's problems. After six months of hearings and deliberations, the commission presented its recommendations, only part of which were publicized.

Apparently the commission favoured closing the factory, but the Knesset Finance Committee rejected that idea out of hand, due to fear of unemployment. The Knesset reaffirmed that the hole industry was necessary for economic independence.

The Ministry of Housing announced it would increase the number of holes it was purchasing for the roofs of public housing. The Securities Commission granted permission for a new issue of stock to raise funds for retooling and modernization of the industry. The Bank of Israel offered to buy holes to be used as additional zeroes on new currency denominations.

But, woe and alas, the factory continued to lose money. Finally the government came to the conclusion that in order to save the industry and prevent layoffs, the corporation would be nationalized. It bought out the Jew. He retired with his family to his mansion in Caesarea, where he lived happily ever after.

The writer teaches economics at the Technion and is associated with the Israel Centre for Social and Economic Studies.

READERS' LETTERS

MAIL DELAY

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — Dr. Wyler (letters, December 15) does not know how fortunate he is that he has to wait only three weeks for mail from Switzerland.

My sister lives in the Negev, and has a pension, sent monthly by the British Dept. of Health and Social Security. Up to last week she had not had her pension for three months, though I am sure that the DHSS posts the payment orders promptly and regularly.

And a Jerusalem friend to whom I send the London *Observer* every week received on one day all the copies that I sent in July, August and September.

If Israeli government ministers had the same principles as British ministers, Dr. Zippori would have resigned long ago. His department's inefficiency has long been a scandal.

ARTHUR SUPER
London, England.

ENCOURAGING OLDER IMMIGRANTS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — The Jewish Agency, and especially its North American desk, does not encourage older Jews to live in Israel!

Most of the administrators and shlichim are either from Eastern Europe themselves, or are descendants from Eastern European Jews. Their thoughts are still with the ideological young Jews of the 1930s and 1940s. The shlichim spend all their time looking for college students, and missing the thousands of Jews who would come to Israel and buy reasonably-priced apartments and bring their expertise in business, professions and trades. Their investments, pensions, etc. would bring a badly-needed cash flow into Israel.

To increase aliyah three or four times the number each year, the administration of the North American desk and the shlichim must come from Jews who originate from Canada and the U.S., so that they can relate to the North American

Jew. It is time to stop playing games!

With older persons coming to Israel their younger relatives would follow. Vice versa has, so far, not succeeded, and never will. The exorbitant monies asked by builders in Israel for apartments is not conducive to encouraging the lower middle class Jews to come to live in Israel. Contrary to information spread abroad, most Jews in the U.S. are in the lower middle class or lower income bracket.

LESLIE COLE

Sherman Oaks,
California, U.S.A.

PENFRIENDS

EDWARD BROOKS (40), of 2/58 Strettle Street, Northcote, Victoria, Australia, visited Israel several times and would like to correspond with Israeli women. He likes music, theatre, movies and swimming and also collects books on Israeli history.

Antiquities and Museums Division
P.O.B. 586, Jerusalem 91004

TO ANTIQUITIES DEALERS

Licences to trade as an antiquities dealer lapsed on December 31, 1983. Dealers who have not yet renewed their licences should do so by then.

The old licence should be sent to the Antiquities and Museums Division, P.O.B. 586, Jerusalem 91004, with a request for renewal. This should be accompanied by a full inventory of stock, updated and with full details, and signed by the licensee.

The appropriate licence fee, as indicated hereunder, should be enclosed with the renewal request:

11 IS 10,700/year — if paid in the period November 1, 1983 to March 31, 1984 21 IS 16,000/year — if paid in the period April 1, 1984 to July 31, 1984 31 IS 21,400/year — if paid on or after August 1, 1984.

An antiquities dealer who does not have a licence should apply to the Antiquities Division as soon as possible, giving his full name, the name of his business, and his private address. He should include the fee as indicated above. If he has antiquities in stock, he should attach an inventory.

The Director of the Division reminds the general public and antiquities traders that Section 15 of the Antiquities Law 1978 (published in February 10, 1978 in the Book of Laws, Law No. 885) states: "No one shall trade in antiquities unless he holds a licence, in accordance with the licence conditions given in the regulations."

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